

Message Text

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71 64

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 COME-00 STR-04 TRSE-00

AGR-05 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 FEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /099 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/GCP:RBANQUE:MH

APPROVED BY EB/OT:CWSCHMIDT

COMMERCE:CSIEGEL (DRAFT)

STR:SLANDE

EUR/RPE:ECASEY (SUB)

EUR/WE:MDURKEE (SUB)

TREAS:AGAULT (SUB)

AGRIC:KREYNOLDS (INFO)

LABOR:JCOYLE (INFO)

----- 082483

O 110050Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

USDEL MTN GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, SP

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND GSP

1. AS MISSION AND EMBASSY ARE AWARE, EC-SPAIN AGREEMENT
TIES PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATE AFFORDED TO EC PRODUCTS TO
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EXISTING MFN RATE. THUS, IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE A MARGIN

OF PREFERENCE ON A TARIFF ITEM, SPAIN WOULD HAVE TO REDUCE ITS MFN TARIFF TO ZERO. BY CONTRAST, ISRAEL AND PORTUGAL CALCULATE THE TARIFF APPLIED TO EC EXPORTS ON THE BASIS OF THE APPLICABLE MFN TARIFF AT A FIXED DATE IN THE PAST. ISRAEL AND PORTUGAL CAN, THEREFORE, LOWER MFN TARIFF WITHOUT LOWERING THE TARIFF APPLIED TO EC EXPORTS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT PORTUGAL AND ISRAEL ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY AND TO CONSULT WITH THE EC WITH REGARD TO MFN TARIFF CHANGES.

2. IN ASSESSING WHAT WE MAY REQUIRE OF SPAIN IN TERMS OF ASSURANCES REGARDING THE ELIMINATION OF MARGINS OF PREFERENCE IN THE FUTURE, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT FROM THE MISSION AND THE EMBASSY:

A. WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC?

B. WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE EC WILL AGREE TO GRANTING SPAIN THE SAME FLEXIBILITY AS PORTUGAL AND ISRAEL HAVE TO CHANGE AT LEAST CERTAIN MFN TARIFFS WITHOUT AFFECTING THE PREFERENTIAL RATE?

3. IN VIEW OF IMMINENT RESUMPTION OF U.S. CONSULTATIONS WITH SPAIN ON GSP ELIGIBILITY, POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT THEIR RESPECTIVE VIEWS BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM, BUT SHOULD NOT APPROACH THE COMMISSION NOR THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT. KISSINGER

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